

Frequently Asked Questions for Enhanced Services Facilities 1-17-14

How will services be funded in ESFs?

The Department is currently working with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to develop a 1915 (c) Home and Community Based Waiver that allows for the state to draw federal match for the services provided in Enhanced Services Facilities.

Where will these facilities be located?

The current funding allows for 42 individuals to be served in ESFs. The Department hopes to identify qualified and interested providers in locations throughout the state, so that there is coverage both east and west of the mountains. An ESF cannot be located on the same property as a nursing home or psychiatric hospital. These will be separately-licensed facilities and will only serve ESF residents.

How will the Department determine who gets an ESF contract?

The Department will conduct a Request for Contractor Proposals (RFP) and will contract with interested providers who meet the contractor qualifications. Having an ESF contract does not guarantee that the contractor's beds will be filled at any given time.

What is the rate for ESFs?

The rates are still in development. The 2013-15 State Operating Budget provided for an anticipated average range between \$220-\$265/day. The rate model will depend upon the service package included in the ESF contract. The DRAFT service package is outlined in the DRAFT contract that is currently out for stakeholder review.

Will these facilities be locked?

No. Delayed egress may be considered for residents who have an assessed safety need in this area.

Can someone be detained to an ESF?

No.

Is there any community notification required to open an ESF?

The authorizing statute RCW 70.97 and related regulations do not require any community notifications.

Can felons and sex offenders be admitted to an ESF?

Residents in need of these services will have a variety of backgrounds. Felons and sex offenders will not be excluded, but may have some additional requirements related to decisions made in court.

Do we need to document that we have reviewed the assessment each month?

The draft licensing WACs will likely include a requirement that each assessment is documented.

What does the staffing level include? Does the staffing ratio of 3 to 1 mean a caregiver can only care for 3 residents?

There must be at least 2 staff on duty whenever there are residents in the facility. A licensed nurse is required at all times; a registered nurse must be on duty 8 hours per day and a registered nurse must be on-call during any shift where a licensed practical nurse is on duty. A mental health professional

must be on-site at least 16 hours per day. If the facility serves one or more medically fragile residents, a registered nurse must be on duty at least 16 hours per day, with a registered nurse or doctor on-call during the remaining 8 hours.

The 3-to-1 staffing ratio will include registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, nursing assistants, home care aides, and mental health professionals. The provider/contractor must ensure that there is appropriate staff available at all times to meet the needs of the residents.

How many ESFs will there be and how many residents can a facility have?

There is no specific number of ESFs that we have identified. By June 2015, there will be 42 residents in these facilities, with a maximum of 16 residents per facility.

What RSN services may be provided to ESF residents?

Residents of an ESF can receive any of the mental health services for which they qualify and which are medically necessary through the RSN, including psychiatric medication management by a prescriber funded through the RSN. Behavior support will be provided through the ESF under the guidance of the mental health professional.

Does the facility need to be on one floor?

The current draft licensing WACs require residents in an ESF to be on the ground floor. If the facility has more than one story, the remaining floors cannot be used to provide resident care and services.

Who pays for the actual physical buildings or sites?

The contractor will pay for the buildings, sites, staffing, and all other costs of providing care and services.

Are aides required to have agency affiliated counselor certification?

This is not currently a requirement in chapter 388-112 WAC.

Can we receive information on resident location preferences before submitting a proposal?

Due to privacy issues, we cannot broadly share this information. Once the contractors have been selected, they will have access to information on the specific residents who are eligible for placement in an ESF.

If you have further questions, please refer to the ESF Stakeholder Website:

<http://www.altsa.dshs.wa.gov/professional/esf.htm>